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D/OCA plans to prepare a response for DCI signature.

Executive Secretary

21 Aug '87

Date

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LAWTON CHILES, FLORIDA BAM NUNN GEORGIA CARL LEVIN MICHIGAN JIM SASSER TENNESSEE DAVID PHYOR ARKANSAS GEORGE J MITCHELL MAINE JEFF BINGAMAN, NEW MEXICO WILLIAM V ROTH JR. DELAWARE
TED STEVENS ALASKA
WILLIAM S COHEN MAINE
WARREN B RUDMAN,
NEW HAMPSHIRE
JOHN HEINZ PENNSYLVANIA
PAUL S TREILE JR. VIRGINIA

LEONARD WEISS, STAFF DIRECTOR
JO ANNE BARNHART, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

United States Senate

87-4100X

LAWTON HILES FLORIDA CAPL LEV I MICHIGAN JIM SASSER, TENNESSEE DAVID PRYOR, ARKANSAS GEORGE J. MITCHELL, MAINE

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ELEANORE J. HILL, CHIEF COUNSEL DANIEL F. RINZEL, CHIEF COUNSEL TO THE MINORITY

Resp. # OCA - 3854-87

JOHN GLENN, OHIO, VICE CHAIRMAN

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

SENATE PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

August 18, 1987

The Honorable William H. Webster Director Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Director Webster:

As you are well aware, I have been concerned for some time about our government's handling of those individuals who have defected or are otherwise political refugees from the Soviet Union and other communist-bloc countries. Due to that concern, I have commissioned an investigation by the staff of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations into this matter. The results of that inquiry are intended to be presented to the Subcommittee in public hearings set for September 15th and 16th, 1987.

In the course of our investigation, it has became apparent that the vast majority of those who flee communist regimes are neither intelligence officers nor of such interest national security and national intelligence mission that they your agency for the purview of within support resettlement. Nevertheless, our investigation has shown that there are a discreet number of refugees who through their background and training offer unique and important insights into the communist system that are of importance to other branches of government, academia and our society as a whole. Unfortunately, it appears that no government agency is currently entrusted with the responsibility to assist or otherwise tap this pool of insight into the communist world.

Due to your current position as well as your prior experience as Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, I feel that your testimony leading off our September 15th hearings is essential for the Subcommittee to understand the context in which the non-intelligence defectors are handled. It is important that your perspective as the head of the U.S. intelligence community is properly conveyed to Congress and the public at large on this important issue.

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The Honorable William H. Webster Page 2

In particular, I feel that your presentation would be useful in order to clarify the role of the CIA in regards to those individuals outside of the purview of Section 7 of the CIA Act of 1949. Your thoughts and suggestions on ways to assist these individuals while utilizing their unique attributes would also be of great assistance to the Subcommittee.

In conclusion, I would once again like to reiterate my feeling that your appearance before the Subcommittee would be of great value to us in analyzing this important issue. Chief Counsel, Eleanore J. Hill and Deputy Chief Counsel, John F. Sopko of the Subcommittee staff may be contacted at 224-3721 if your staff should have any questions concerning this request.

(Sincerely,

Sam Nunn Chairman

OCA 87-3619 20 August 1987

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NOTE FOR: The Director

FROM:

Dave Gries

SUBJECT:

Senate Select Subcommittee on Investigations Hearings

on Defectors

Previously we discussed Senator Nunn's request for your testimony at a public hearing of his Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations. Senator Nunn wants you to discuss unclassified aspects of the handling of refugees and also of the handling of defectors who do not qualify for Intelligence Community support. He is interested in hearing your testimony because of your current position at CIA and your previous position at the FBI.

We have labored unsuccessfully for two months to convince Subcommittee staff that CIA is only a bystander and not a direct participant in the affairs of those organizations—the Tolstoy Foundation, the Jamestown Foundation, to name the two best known—committed to the support and resettlement of refugees and defectors. These lengthy negotiations yielded a more satisfactory definition of what the Subcommittee would like you to talk about, but also produced a second invitation from Senator Nunn for your public testimony. The hearing will probably take place in late September or October.

Given Senator Nunn's interest, I believe you should accept, even though it is highly unusual for a Director of Central Intelligence to testify in public. Director Casey did so only once and then only to speak in support of an Intelligence Museum. Our records are not perfect for other directors, but there is no known instance of additional public testimony except during the investigations of the mid-1970s. Since previous directors have refused in anticipation of being asked classified questions, Senator Nunn's invitation places us in unchartered waters, the subject being unclassified. Unless you advise to the contrary, we will begin shaping testimony.